

**INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION**

Project Number \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location: Jamaica

Project Title: Improved Reproductive Health for Youth (SO3)  
Increased Numeracy & Literacy among targeted Jamaican Youth (SO4)

Funding: US\$ 3,700,000

Life of SO: FY 2005

IEE Prepared by: Joan Davis, OGD, USAID/Jamaica

Clearance: Margaret Sancho, Director, SO3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Karen McDonald-Gayle, SO2 \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended Threshold Decision: Categorical Exclusion;  
Negative Determination with condition

CONCURRENCE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Kevin A. Rushing (*for*)  
Mission Environmental Officer  
USAID/Jamaica

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Donald  
Regional Environment Advisor  
USAID/Guatemala

MISSION DIRECTOR'S  
DECISION

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Karen D. Turner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

LAC BUREAU  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
OFFICER'S DECISION

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Bisson

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Background**

Hurricane Ivan struck the island of Jamaica on Friday September 10, 2004, and continued through September 11 with devastating wind and rain. Eighteen persons died as a result of the hurricane. Preliminary assessment puts the damage at US\$362 million (J\$22,443m). Direct damage, which includes damage to infrastructure amounts to US\$ 303b (J\$18,570b), while indirect losses are estimated US\$62m at (J\$3,873b).

Prior to September 2004, the Jamaican economy faced challenges in stabilizing the macro-economy. This has been difficult because Jamaica has a small, oil-importing economy, which is highly vulnerable to sharp changes in the terms of trade, international prices and other external shocks. The effects of Hurricane Ivan will set back economic progress.

Hurricane Ivan severely damaged many schools and colleges across the island. Additionally, several schools used as temporary shelters for dislocated families, need to be rehabilitated and upgraded for future use. The learning materials in many schools were damaged and vandalized. The dislocation of thousands of families and the destruction of the schools posed problems for the education system and the restarting of schools within a relatively short time frame has been challenging at best. Consequently, schools have commenced classes under difficult circumstances and the school term has been reduced.

In the case of the Ministry of Health, the three main objectives during the post Hurricane Ivan period were to: (i) restore health service delivery to normal levels; (ii) maintain the health status of Jamaicans and all other persons resident in the island; and (iii) prevent and control disease outbreaks. Of the 24 hospitals, all are providing services, however five suffered severe roof damage and six are still not providing full services. Secondary health care has been improving since the hurricane passed and of the 324 health centers island-wide, 86% have reopened.

## **Program Description**

The purpose of the Hurricane Ivan Reconstruction and Recovery Interventions is to assist Jamaica in the most affected areas of health and education, to recover from the destruction and to reduce vulnerability to future natural disasters. Specifically, the activity is aimed at repairing and refurbishing targeted educational and health facilities throughout the island and also developing a cadre of trained social workers/guidance counselors capable of addressing post-traumatic stress syndrome.

Under this specific Hurricane Ivan Reconstruction and Recovery Intervention the following activities will be undertaken:

Activity 1 – The procurement of supplementary school materials, supplies, equipment, and furniture for all USAID New Horizons Project (NHP) and Caribbean Center for Excellence in Teacher Training (CCETT) schools and college.

Activity 2 – The procurement of health center equipment and supplies, including beds and other furnishings; and disposable articles such as hygiene kits, medication and non-disposable equipment such as nebulizers, blankets, antibiotics, water storage containers, and portable generators

Activity 3 – The repair, rehabilitation and refurbishment of selected NHP and CCETT schools and one college; as well as the repair, rehabilitation, and re-supplying of selected public health centers and NGO facilities island-wide.

**Environmental Impact and Mitigation Measures:** The following table highlights the potential environmental effects identified for the activities and the proposed mitigation measures.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Potential Environmental Impact</u>	<u>Conditions recommended for mitigation</u>
<b>Activity 1:</b> Procurement of school supplies and equipment	None	Activities involve the provision of technical assistance, educational training, social and institutional capacity building and will have no negative impact on the physical or natural environment. The program therefore qualifies for a <b>Categorical Exclusion</b> under 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i),(iii),(v) and (xiv).
<b>Activity 2:</b> Procurement of health center supplies	Non-disposable articles should have no negative impact on the physical environment or pose any significant risk on the welfare of the surrounding community. However, disposable articles may potentially become medical waste.	Non-disposable items fall into the categorical exclusion category as outlined above.  As directed in the Environmental Threshold Decision for the original Strategic Objective Agreement (LAC-IEE-01-47). The mission shall monitor compliance with WHO and Ministry of Health bio-safety guidelines, as appropriate and provide additional training, as necessary, to ensure compliance. <b>As appropriate, Dec 2003 LAC Environmental Guidelines for health waste disposal will be followed.</b>
<b>Activity 3:</b> Repair and Rehabilitation of various buildings	Large amount of debris will be generated	Binding agreement between collaborators, including local environmental authorities, at beginning agreeing to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. method and site for disposal of waste materials</li> <li>2. inclusion and type of sanitation facilities rehabilitated or installed in target sites</li> </ol> In addition to the binding agreement, <b>Dec 2003 LAC Environmental Guidelines for small-scale infrastructure will be followed, and</b> each partner must have a copy of an environmental management plan approved by the Mission Environmental Officer to ensure compliance and site-specific measures with the agreement and other mitigation measures. The CTO will also conduct regular independent evaluations of the plan and the activity. <b>Training, as necessary, will be provided to ensure compliance.</b>

The following language will be included in all contracts and agreements under this activity: *“The Contractor agrees that all activities funded under this contract will comply with all environmental requirements applicable to all USAID financed activities including those set forth in Title 22 of the United States Code of Federal Regulations Part 216. All best management practices, mitigation measures, and guidelines recommended by the December 2003 Environmental Guidelines for Development Activities in Latin America and the Caribbean, especially Chapter 2 on Small-Scale Infrastructure and Chapter 5 on Solid Waste and Health Waste, will be implemented.”*

All mitigating measures, guidelines and best management practices for **small scale infrastructure and** medical waste handling and disposal as outlined in the **December 2003** “Environmental Guidelines for Development Activities in Latin America and the Caribbean” will be strictly implemented. These guidelines were prepared for USAID/LAC Bureau under the Environmental Policy and Institutional Strengthening Indefinite Quantity Contract and approved by USAID.

**Monitoring and Reporting:** This Intervention will be managed within the Mission by a US Direct Hire General Development Officer who will be supervising the work of implementing partners. The CTO will be responsible for overseeing and monitoring all program activities throughout the life of the activity in collaboration with the Mission Environmental Officer, and for collaborating with the Office of National Reconstruction – Cabinet Office to ensure that all activities are in compliance with the categorical exclusion threshold decision and negative determinations which are being recommended for this program. In addition USAID/J-CAR will ensure that all environmental compliance activities are elaborated upon in the Final Reports. **The main contractor(s) and partner(s) will submit to the CTO and MEO for their approval an annual summary of environmental compliance of Activity 2 and 3, including recommendations for improvements or changes.**

#### **Recommendation for Threshold Decision:**

**A Categorical Exclusion** pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2 (c)(2)(i), (iii), (v), and (xiv) is recommended for Activity 1 and the procurement of non-disposable equipment under Activity 2.

**A Negative Determination With Conditions** is recommended for building rehabilitation activities and those involving handling and disposal of medical and sanitary waste within project/activity. All best management practices, mitigation measures, and guidelines recommended by the **December 2003 Environmental Guidelines for Development Activities in Latin America and the Caribbean will be implemented, especially Chapter 2 on Small-Scale Infrastructure and Chapter 5 on Solid Waste and Health Waste.**

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